

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
RAINY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

Date	April 19, 2022	Time	5:59 p.m.-7:34 p.m.
Chair / Facilitator	MOEN, Donna	Recorder	DAWBER, Michael

Signature of Chair / Facilitator: _____ Signature of Recorder: _____

Present	DAWBER, Michael; DESSERRE, Kim; EWALD, Mayor Deb; McDONALD, Donna; MOEN, Donna; ROBINSON, Anna.
Regrets	none

0.0	CALL TO ORDER	Chair Donna Moen called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.	
1.0	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	MOTION 2022:13 [Donna McDonald / Kim Desserre] “THAT the Agenda be approved as distributed.” Carried.	
2.0	CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION		
3.0	2022 BUDGET	<p><i>See Document Set A.</i> The Board discussed the 2022 spending estimates at length. There was general agreement that the Library’s current financial situation was very serious and put the long-term viability of the Library in doubt. There will be no change in total staff hours for 2022 and physical collection expenses must be cut to \$4,000. The Board will a request a minimum 2% increase from each municipal partner, noting that local funding usually covers 60-70% of public library operating costs. RRPL received 39.6% of its revenue from local funding in 2021. The Board noted the discrepancy between the per-household support paid from local revenue by Morley Township was far below the level required to provide service to Morley. There was general agreement that the full Board would send a delegation to each municipality this year to discuss the financial</p>	<p>ACTION: CEO Michael Dawber will draft the 2022 budget request letters for the municipalities. Trustees will review the letters and approved text will be distributed to the councils.</p> <p>ACTION: All trustees will participate in a delegation to each local municipal council to discuss the budget. Dates and times to be confirmed.</p> <p>ACTION: CEO Michael Dawber will work on a “donor</p>

		<p>situation. The Board agreed that any revenue earned in excess of the budgeted projections would be earmarked for wages. Staff remain among the lowest-paid of any library in the 2,500-and-under population served category in Northern Ontario. The Board recognized that the decreasing capacity of the community to raise funds for the Library in the context of a shrinking and aging population. The Library will still hold the usual fundraising events – including the annual book sales and silent auctions – during Railroad Daze (Jul 15-17) and Ontario Public Library Week. There appeared to be no viable option to obtain funding to extend service to the unorganized townships of Nelles, Pratt, Spohn, and Sutherland. MOTION 2022:14 [Deb Ewald / Donna McDonald] “THAT the Board approves the 2022 Budget as amended.” Carried.</p>	<p>recognition tree” – either physical or virtual – for the Library.</p>
4.0	OTHER BUSINESS	<p>The Board raised concerns about the narrative portion of the budget. CEO Michael Dawber clarified that the narrative portion did not intend to suggest staff <i>were</i> asked to fundraise to support increased wages, only that this <i>would be</i> the only means of covering increased wages given the severe financial restraints faced by the Board. No new revenue has been identified. There is also a long-standing issue of staff volunteering their time to complete their duties. This has worsened during the pandemic.</p>	<p>ACTION: Library staff will track unpaid overtime hours for the next month and will report these to the Board.</p>
5.0	NEXT MEETING [#04-22]	<p>Tuesday, May 24, 6 p.m. The Board will also hold a strategic planning retreat on Saturday, April 30, 10 am-3 pm. The Library will be closed for the day. A potluck will be held.</p>	<p>ACTION: CEO Michael Dawber will notify the public regarding the April 30 closure.</p>
6.0	ADJOURNMENT	<p>With no remaining business, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.</p>	

/msd